

I believe the FCC needs to let both XM and Sirius provide the programming their subscribers want, even if it does siphon away listeners from traditional AM and FM outlets. I have been an XM subscriber for only a few months now, but I already believe signing up is one of the best choices I've ever made! For many years, I worked in commercial radio and watched FCC-approved media mergers suck the heart and soul out of local radio. Public service is a thing of the past. Cookie-cutter formats, automation and station managers who don't care about the towns and cities they serve, have all eroded the public airwaves. And now, these same detached corporate suits are crying because satellite radio is actually providing a much-needed public service?? Give me a break!

The media conglomerates should take a long hard look at themselves, and remember the responsibility they accepted when they applied for a broadcast license. The FCC should stop changing the rules to suit the media titans. Instead, they should only routinely tweak them to satisfy the public interest.

Bottom line: HR 4026 should not be passed! Let the listeners decide who built the better mousetrap, not those who've lost touch with their listeners, and have no other way to stay in the game.

Curt Chapman